

SUE :

PLEASE SEND THIS ALONG TO DENIS CLIFT AT CAMP DAVID
FOR HIS CLEARANCE.

ALSO, WOULD YOU PLEASE VERIFY WITH DCLIFT -- DOES THE REFERENCE TO "VAKY VISITING ALONE" MEAN NO ACCOMPANYING PERSONNEL OR JUST A VISIT TO THE COUNTRY OF ARGENTINA?

THANKS.

LOUISE
SECRETARY TO AMBASSADOR VAKY

9/6
5:55 P.M.

Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP
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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PGQV, PDIP, AR

SUBJECT: MEETING BETWEEN THE VICE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT VIDELA

1. SUMMARY. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE VICE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT VIDELA, SEPTEMBER 5, AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN ROME. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE A FOLLOW-UP INQUIRY TO PRESIDENT VIDELA OR DR. YOFRE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 7 BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. IN THE COURSE OF THE MEETING, THE VICE PRESIDENT STRESSED THAT WE WANT GOOD RELATIONS BUT THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ARE A CENTRAL CONCERN. WE WISHED TO WORK WITH ARGENTINA IN HAVING GOOD RELATIONS. IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT VIDELA RECEIVE THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (IAHRC), ON TERMS ACCEPTABLE TO THE COMMISSION. WE WOULD NOT LINK ARGENTINE ACTIONS WITH OUR OWN. PROGRESS ON CASES SUCH AS JACOBO TIMERMAN WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL.

3. PRESIDENT VIDELA STATED THAT HE FULLY CONCURS IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S POSITION ON HUMAN RIGHTS. THE WESTERN WORLD MUST BE UNITED AND THE UNITED STATES MUST LEAD THE

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Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/RP

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WESTERN WORLD. ARGENTINA WAS WITH THE UNITED STATES AND NOT TROUBLED BY OBJECTIVE CRITICISM. HE WAS CONCERNED, HOWEVER, BY CRITICISM WHICH HAD THE APPEARANCE OF INTERVENTION IN ARGENTINE DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. SUCH CRITICISM HAD COMPELLED HIM TO POSTPONE AN INVITATION TO THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. HIS CONCERN WAS THAT PROBLEMS IN THE RELATIONSHIP AT THE GOVERNMENT PLANE HAD BEEN RAISED TO THE LEVEL OF PUBLIC OR POPULAR ISSUES.

4. THE VICE PRESIDENT SUGGESTED THAT, TO PUT RELATIONS ON A MORE POSITIVE COURSE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY VAKY COME TO ARGENTINA TO MEET WITH VIDELA OR A PERSON OF HIS CHOICE FOR A REVIEW OF OUR RELATIONS. VIDELA ASKED WHETHER THE VAKY VISIT WOULD BE AFTER THE IAHRC OR BEFORE. THE VICE PRESIDENT SUGGESTED THAT IT BE SCHEDULED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

5. PRESIDENT VIDELA REVIEWED STEPS TAKEN BY THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT SINCE HIS LAST MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER (DURING THE PANAMA CANAL SIGNING), WHICH HE SAID SHOWED THAT THERE HAD BEEN EFFORTS BY HIS GOVERNMENT IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS AREA. VIDELA CONFIRMED THAT HE WOULD RECEIVE THE COMMISSION. HE SAID IT WAS HIS INTENTION TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT BEFORE OCTOBER 1, THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE HUMPHREY-KENNEDY AMENDMENT, BUT DID NOT THINK IT COULD BE DONE BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15. (AT AN EARLIER POINT, HE SAID THAT HE COULD PERHAPS ARRANGE A VISIT OF THE COMMISSION BY MID-OCTOBER.) ASSISTANT SECRETARY VAKY COULD VISIT AFTER THE ANNOUNCEMENT. VIDELA SAID HE PREFERRED THAT VAKY VISIT ALONE AND REQUESTED THAT THE USG LET HIM KNOW AHEAD OF TIME THE OBJECTIVES OF THE VAKY MISSION. THE VICE PRESIDENT SAID WE WOULD COMMUNICATE THESE.

6. IN THE COURSE OF THE DISCUSSION, THE VICE PRESIDENT NOTED THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE EX-IM BANK REACH A DECISION ON ALLIS-CHALMERS BY SEPTEMBER 15, THE DATE OF THE BIDS FOR THE YACYRETA POWER PROJECT. AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMMISSION'S VISIT BEFORE OCTOBER 1 MIGHT ENABLE US TO ACT ON A LETTER BY EX-IM IN SUPPORT OF THE ALLIS-CHALMERS BID BEFORE SEPTEMBER 15.

7. ACTION REQUESTED. VIDELA REITERATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT HE INTENDS TO RECEIVE THE COMMISSION. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO FOLLOW UP IN LOW KEY FASHION WITH PRESIDENT VIDELA HIMSELF, IF POSSIBLE, OR WITH YOFRE (WHO WAS PRESENT AT THE MEETING) MAKING THE FOLLOWING POINTS: {1} WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT THE MEETING WITH THE VICE PRESIDENT TOOK PLACE; {2} WE WANT TO REITERATE THE U.S. DESIRE TO BRING

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U.S. ARGENTINE RELATIONS BACK TO THE STATE WHICH SHOULD
EXIST BETWEEN TWO FRIENDLY NATIONS; (3) YOU HAVE BEEN ASKED
TO BE IN TOUCH IN ORDER TO FOLLOW UP ON THE MONDALE-VIDELA
CONVERSATIONS; (4) WE ARE NOW TAKING A LOOK AT WHERE WE
STAND AS A PRELUDE TO THE TRIP TO ARGENTINA BY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY VAKY WHICH WAS DISCUSSED IN ROME; AND (5) NOW
THAT VIDELA IS BACK, DOES HE HAVE A CLEAR VIEW OF THE
TIMETABLE WHICH MIGHT BE LIKELY FOR BOTH THE ANNOUNCEMENT
OF THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION VISIT AND
THE VAKY TRIP?

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE), AR, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED MONDALE-VIDELA MEETING

Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP

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IPS by JA Date 10-2-16

1. IN RESPONSE TO AN URGENT REQUEST FROM ARGENTINE PRESIDENT VIDELA FOR A BRIEF MEETING WHILE BOTH ARE IN ROME FOR THE INSTALLATION OF POPE JOHN PAUL I, VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AGREED TO A MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 4 TO DISCUSS THE RAPID DETERIORATION IN U.S.-ARGENTINE RELATIONS. THE VICE PRESIDENT WILL HOLD NO OTHER BILATERALS IN ROME (PARAGUAYAN FORNMIN NEGOTIATIONS ALSO REQUESTED A SESSION). IN THE EXPECTATION THAT THE MONDALE-VIDELA MEETING WILL BREAK IN THE MEDIA, DEPARTMENT HAS PREPARED THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WHICH YOU MAY USE ON AN IF-ASKED BASIS ONLY.

Q1: WILL (DID) VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE MEET WITH ARGENTINE PRESIDENT VIDELA IN ROME?

A1: VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AGREED TO A REQUEST FROM PRESIDENT VIDELA TO MEET IN ROME. THE MEETING WILL AFFORD (HAS AFFORDED) AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW FURTHER THE CURRENT STATE OF U.S.-ARGENTINE RELATIONS.

Q1: IS THE VICE PRESIDENT MEETING (HAS HE MET) WITH ANYONE ELSE?

***** WHSR COMMENT *****

VP
ROBINHUNT PASTOR

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A: THERE REALLY ISN'T MUCH TIME FOR EXTRA MEETINGS NOW. PRESIDENT VIDELA ASKED TO SEE THE VICE PRESIDENT, SO A SHORT MEETING WAS ARRANGED.

Q: WHAT DID THEY TALK ABOUT?

A: THEY BRIEFLY REVIEWED IN A GENERAL WAY THE STATE OF U.S.-ARGENTINE RELATIONS. BOTH OF THEM AGREED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT BOTH COUNTRIES SEEK TO STRENGTHEN THIS RELATIONSHIP.

Q: ISN'T HUMAN RIGHTS ONE OF THE SERIOUS PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ARGENTINA?

A: YES. IT WAS OF COURSE ONE OF THE TOPICS WHICH WAS COVERED DURING THEIR REVIEW OF U.S.-ARGENTINE RELATIONS.

2. WE HAVE TOLD THE ARGENTINES THAT WE BELIEVE THIS MEETING SHOULD BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL AND THAT WE DID NOT INTEND TO PUBLICIZE THE MEETING. THE ARGENTINES AGREED. FOR THIS REASON, WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR TREATING THE ABOVE AS HIGHLY SENSITIVE, WITH PRESS USE ONLY IN EVENT MEETING BREAKS IN YOUR LOCAL MEDIA AND ON IF-ASKED BASIS.

VANCE
BT

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~~RRR IN Bureau of US State Dept. 1/24/78, 2/26/78, 3/2/78~~

[Monahan, Dean] Visit to Brazil + Venezuela (3/11-16/78) Participation

Foreign Trips - VP's Visit to Rome, Italy. 9/2-4/78; Diplomatic
Cables, 9/1-5/78

d/so: State 224163

Rome 16290

Sept 2, 78

State 223594

Rome 16283